

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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**Date:**

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## Philippines

**Post:** Manila

### Typhoon Megi

**Report Categories:**

Agricultural Situation

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#### Report Highlights:

According to the Philippine Department of Agriculture (DA), agricultural losses as a result of Typhoon Megi (local name: Juan) which recently passed through the country reached P4.8 billion (\$108.4 million). Major losses were noted in rice (P3.8 billion or \$85.9 million), high value commercial crops or HVCC (P598.4 million or \$13.6 million) and corn (P312.3 million or \$7.1 million). Damages to fisheries and livestock were recorded at P47 (\$1.1 million) and P29.6 million (\$0.7 million), respectively. For rice, despite the losses, the DA reportedly does not see the need for additional imports for the remainder of 2010.

**General Information:**

The Philippine Department of Agriculture Central Action Center (DA-CAC), in its October 20, 2010 Situationer Report No. 173, estimates agricultural losses as a result of Typhoon Megi (local name: Juan) at P4.77 billion (\$108.4 million).

Typhoon Megi entered Philippine territory October 17, 2010 and affected a total of 234,980 hectares covering four regions in the main island of Luzon. These include the Cordillera Autonomous Region (CAR), the Ilocos Region (Region I), Cagayan Valley (Region II), and the Central Luzon region (Region III). Typhoon Megi affected 16 provinces. Losses were most pronounced in Pangasinan Province (P1.4 billion or \$31.8 million) followed by Isabela (898 million or \$20.4 million) and Nueva Ecija (P588 million or \$13.4 million), according to the report.

**Area affected, Volume lost and Value per Sector**

Rice - Affected were about 218,000 hectares of rice lands resulting in the loss of an estimated 222,000 MT of unmilled rice. Total rice losses were valued at P3.78 billion (\$85.9 million), according to the report.

Corn - At least 13,280 hectares of corn were affected damaging about 24,000 MT of corn grains. The report says that around 13,175 hectares may still recover, however. Overall corn damages were estimated at P312.3 million (\$7.1 million)

High Value Commercial Crops - An estimated 3,700 hectares of HVCC were affected by Typhoon Megi. Around 16,800 MT of assorted vegetables and fruits were damaged/lost. The report estimates total HVCC losses at P598.4 million (\$13.6 million).

Livestock/Poultry - A total of P29.6 million (\$0.7 million) of livestock and poultry were lost mainly in Region I or the Ilocos region.

Fisheries - Damages in 195 hectares of fishponds and fish cages resulted in the loss of an estimated P46.7 million (\$1.07 million) worth of fingerlings and marketable fishes, according to the DA-CAC report.

**Impact on the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Production of Rice and Corn**

Rice – The 218,000 hectares of rice lands is 11.7 percent of the total 1.86 million hectares of rice farms expected to be harvested in the October to December period of 2010. The estimated production losses (222,000 MT) as a result of Typhoon Megi represent about 3.2 percent of the projected 7.0 MMT national rice production for the last quarter of 2010.

Corn - The estimated 13,280 hectares of corn which were affected by the typhoon is about 2 percent of the 646,000 hectares area to be harvested in the last quarter of 2010. The lost production of 24,000 MT represents around 1.5 percent of the 1.6 MT forecasted harvest during the same period.

**Infrastructure/Facilities**

The DA-CAC report notes that the value of Typhoon Megi on most infrastructure in the affected areas have not yet been submitted. Initially, only P350,000 worth of damaged fishery infrastructure has been reported. The DA-CAC expects this amount to increase as preliminary reports indicate damages to grain warehouses and tobacco curing facilities although the appropriate values have yet to be ascertained.

**No need for Imports**

Despite the damages reported in the October 10, 2010 report, officials from the DA and the National Food Authority (NFA) reportedly see no need for any additional rice imports this year citing ample stocks.